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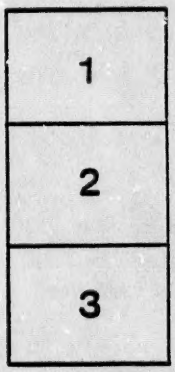

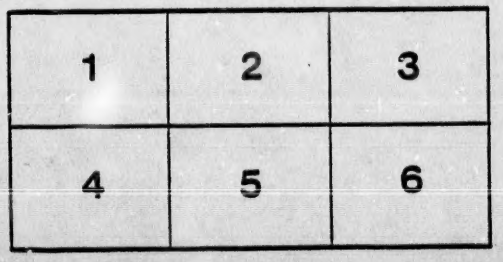

Pamph
1898
no. 71

CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF

THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

TORONTO,
1898.

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OFFICERS FOR 1898-9.

Honorary President, - - HON. G. W. ROSS, LL.D., Min. of Education, Toronto.

President, - - - - JAMES H. COYNE, B.A., St. Thomas.

1st Vice President, - - - D. B. READ, Q.C., Toronto.

2nd Vice President, - - J. OJIJATEKHA BRANT-SERO, Hamilton.

Secretary, - - - - DAVID BOYLE, Education Dept., Toronto.

Treasurer, - - - - B. E. CHARLTON, Hamilton.

Council:

MISS M. A. FITZGIBBON, Toronto.

MR. J. H. LAND, Hamilton.

MR. W. H. DOEL, Eglinton.

MR. A. F. HUNTER, M.A., Barrie.

MR. J. H. PARKER, Woodstock.

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CONSTITUTION.

TORONTO, June 1st, 1898.

1. This Association shall be called "The Ontario Historical Society."

2. Its objects shall be, to unite the various Pioneer and Historical Societies of the Province in one central head or organization, thereby the better to promote intercourse and co-operation on the part of all such societies, to form new societies and to promote and extend the influence and benefits thereof.

The Society shall also engage in the collection, preservation, exhibition and publication of materials for the study of history, especially the history of Ontario and Canada; to this end studying the archæology of the Province, acquiring documents and manuscripts, obtaining narratives and records of pioneers, conducting a library of historical reference, maintaining a gallery of historical portraiture and an ethnological and historical museum, publishing and otherwise diffusing information relative to the history of the Province and of the Dominion, and, in general, encouraging and developing within this Province the study of history.

3. The Society shall be composed of the following classes of members, viz.:

Ex-officio, delegate, life, honorary, corresponding and annual.

(*a*) *Ex-officio* members are:

The Governor-General of Canada.
The Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.
The Minister of Education.
The Dominion Archivist.
All who have held any of the said offices.
All University Professors of History in Ontario.

The Directors of all Provincial or Municipal Archæological Museums in Ontario.

The Governor-General, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, and Minister of Education of Ontario may each be represented by a delegate, who shall have the right of voting at all meetings of the Society.

(*b*) Any local historical organization in Ontario may be admitted to affiliation with this Society by resolution of the Council of the latter.

Every affiliated society may be represented by not more than three delegates regularly appointed by such society.

The Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve may be represented by one representative from each of the nations, not exceeding seven in all.

The Secretary of every affiliated society (including the Six Nations) shall notify the Secretary of this Society of the name and address of every delegate so appointed.

(*c*) Life members are such persons as shall at any time contribute not less than $25 to the funds of the Association.

(*d*) Annual honorary and corresponding members may be chosen by the Council of the Association at any regular or special meeting thereof.

(*e*) Annual members shall pay an admission fee of $1.00, and (if so provided by resolution of the Council from time to time) an annual fee of not more than $1.00. Upon non payment of such annual fee within the time fixed by the resolution such membership shall cease.

(*f*) Honorary or corresponding members shall not be chosen unless by the unanimous vote of the members of the Council present at the meeting electing them, subject to any by-laws that may be passed.

(*g*) Corresponding members must be resident elsewhere than in the Province of Ontario.

4. The affairs of this Society shall be managed by a council composed of the following officers: the President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five, all of whom shall be elected from among the members of the Society; a Secretary, and the *ex-officio* Vice-Presidents.

Presidents of affiliated societies shall be *ex-officio* Vice-Presidents of this Association. All members of the Council shall hold office until their successors are regularly appointed.

5. The annual general meeting of the Society shall be held at such place in Ontario as shall be appointed at each preceding annual or adjourned annual meeting, such annual meeting to be held on the first Wednesday in June in each year, to receive the annual reports of the Society, and take proper action thereon; for the nomination and election

of officers, and to transact such other business as may be required. Two auditors shall be elected at the annual meeting. Five members shall form a quorum ; for the council, three.

6. It is not the intention of this Society to exercise any control in governing or directing any of the affiliated societies, or in any way to interfere in their private working ; but in case any question is referred to this Society by any of the affiliated societies, then it will be competent for this Society to consider and decide upon the same.

7. No portion of the Constitution or By-laws of the Society shall be altered, added to, or repealed, except by the vote of not less than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting ; and of such proposed alteration, addition or repeal, notice shall be given to the Secretary in writing and signed by a member, at least one month before the said meeting. The Secretary shall, immediately on receipt of said notice, send copies of such proposed alteration addition or repeal, to every member of the Association, a[illegible] Secretary of every affiliated society.

8. Every affiliated society [illegible] the funds of this Society such annual or other sum (if any, [illegible]om time to time determined by resolution of this Society ; provi[illegible] such sum shall not in any year exceed ten cents for each member of such society, nor the sum of ten dollars in all for such society. Upon non-payment of such sum (if any) the affiliation of the society and the membership of its delegates shall cease.

9. No subjects involving differences in religion or politics will on any account be considered proper for discussion.

Officers.

10. The Minister of Education for the time being shall be Honorary President of this Society.

11. The principal duties of the President shall be to preside at all meetings and be the official head of the Society and of the Society Council.

12. The principal duties of the Vice-Presidents shall be, in the order of seniority, to discharge the duties of President in the event of the latter's absence or disability, for any cause whatever, and in case the President and Vice-Presidents are all absent, then any member may be chosen by a majority of those present to act as President, *pro tempore.*

13. The principal duties of the Secretary shall be to keep a record of the proceedings of the Society and Council ; to keep safely and systematically all papers, records and documents belonging to the Society or in anywise pertaining to the business thereof, except such as may be

committed to the care of other officers; to conduct the correspondence of the Society; to edit and supervise its publications under the direction of the Council; to act as the superintendent of its permanent offices at Toronto, its library, museum and collections, and other property committed to his care; to record the accessions of material; to catalogue and arrange the same, and generally, to act under the direction of the Council.

14. The principal duties of the Treasurer shall be to receive and keep in custody all moneys and such other property of the Association as may be committed to his charge by the Council, to invest the capital of the funds in his hands as he shall be authorized by the Council; to pay out such of the said moneys from time to time as he shall be authorized to pay upon proper warrants and vouchers therefor; to keep proper accounts of his receipts and disbursements, and render from time to time as required full and correct statements thereof and generally of all matters pertaining to his office.

(*a*) All moneys of the Society shall, when received, be forthwith deposited in a chartered bank to the credit of the Society, and shall from time to time, be chequed out as required by the Treasurer, subject to the regulations and directions of the Council. The Treasurer's account shall be audited before each aunual meeting by auditors appointed by the Society or the Council, and a summary of the same shall be published in the annnal report.

15. The said officers shall perform such additional, or different duties as may from time to time be imposed or required by the Council, or as may be prescribed from time to time by the by-laws.

16. The Secretary shall be appointed by, and hold office during the pleasure of, the Council.

17. Upon the death, resignation or removal from office of any other officer of the Society, his succeesor may be chosen by the Council at any special or general meeting thereof, and hold office until the next annual meeting of the Society.

18. The Council shall have power by a majority vote of all its members, or upon two-thirds vote of those present at a lawful meeting thereof, to remove from office any officer of the Society, whenever from disability, neglect of duty, inefficiency, mismanagement, misconduct in office, or other cause, the best interests of the Society shall in its opinion seem to require such removal. It shall have power to fill temporarily, (until the annual or a general meeting,) such vacancy in its own number.

19. It may appoint sub-committees of its own members, which may, subject at all times to revision by the Council, exercise any or all the powers of the Council, except those of electing or removing officers.

20. It may adopt by-laws for its government and guidance not inconsistent with this constitution.

21. It shall make an annual report of all its acts and doings to the Society, and of the condition of the Society and its work, accompanied by such suggestions as may seem to be appropriate.

22. It shall perform such additional duties as may from time to time be imposed upon it by the Society.

Meetings.

23. Special meetings of the Society or of the Council may be held from time to time, as required, upon call of the President, Secretary, or of three other members of the Council.

By-Laws.

1. If two members rise at the same time to address the meeting, the presiding officer shall decide who has the floor.

2. Any member addressing the meeting shall do so through the presiding officer, and shall not occupy the floor more than fifteen minutes without permission.

3. At all meetings the chair is to be taken punctually at the hour appointed, and in case thirty minutes elapse without a quorum, the meeting may stand adjourned until such time as the members may name and appoint.